

FBI clippings file, King-Ray

First stories do report Hanes was to consider representing Ray only if returned to U.S.

It is clear that leaking was systematic. After going over the FBI's files it is apparent that it let out all it gathered that was prejudicial to Ray. This would make a worthwhile separate study. It is the kind of operation that fabricates guilt in advance of an opportunity for the system of justice to work. Or, it circumvents the system of justice - really controls it.

Even Scotland Yard joined in. June 13, 1968 UPI's John Meehan wrote that "according to Scotland Yard sources" Ray "hurried off to Lisbon to pick up some money transferred from a Swiss bank account."

His letters possessed by the FBI and relating to his efforts to get to Africa were leaked. So was his supposed prison psychiatric record. "Ray Rhodesia Query by Ray Recalled" the New York Times headlined June 13, 1968

How easy it was for Ray to get out of Canada is reported in the Buffalo Evening News of June 11: "Standard Fugitive Kit Costs \$15 in Toronto - and No Sweat." The lead under this headline said that "For less than \$15 James Earl Ray bought himself the standard fugitive kit - a passport and two phoney birth certificates."

FBI supposedly secret evidence leaked to Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson is filed in the teletype of their column for May 16. Not the printed versions - the copy that goes to editors only. Supposedly.

Martin Waldron was told, in the words of the New York Times' headline of April 12, "Fatal King Bullet Reported Too Small to Identify." This was before the filing of the ballistics reports by the FBI lab. His story was written the day before.

The plans of the young for memorials are all preserved, some from the news tickers marked for Clyde Tolson's personal attention. The FBI never forgot what its founding father thought of Dr. King.

With all that was clipped and preserved, all that was obtained outside of normal channels, the FBI's interest in the crime was so great it did not keep the local papers and their longer stories by those who knew the local scene. Editorials praising the FBI are translated in duplicate from a Puerto Rican paper but there is nothing from the Memphis papers. Not even the pictures they published, prime evidence. These are undoubtedly in the local FBI office but they are not in the Headquarters file.

Section 2:

A wire service story reporting Rev. James Bevel's belief Ray had not shot King is marked for the 100 or internal security file, as are some clippings.

In section 3 dated 3/18/69 and marked for a number of files is a short item on Bud and a Dallas pictures. The sheet is marked Assassination of President Kennedy John F. Kennedy, 11/22/63, Dallas, Texas, File 62-109060 and Original Filed In 60-112697A

News accounts say Stoner was able to see Ray 3/26/69.

3/19 Battle acknowledged receiving Ray's letter.

4/1 stories on Battle's death. Had lunch with Harry C. Pietotti at Catholic Club.

5/30, Avery fired over book efforts.

9/12/69 Lane interview with Muhammed Speaks. Also filed 62-107060-A or 109060-A and Bufile on Mark Lane. Lane has Stephens "the most astute of all the witnesses I found." He gave a description that on age did not fit Ray, Lane says.

Scanty, very incomplete on evidentiary hearing. Last entry on Levis 11/75 announcement of reinvestigation. Rowan column reports FBI was feeding him stuff on Ray.